AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein with the function of a wheat starch synthase, selected from the group consisting of

(a) a nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

(b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or a ribonucleotide sequence corresponding therewith;

(c) a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under stringent conditions with one of the nucleic acid molecules mentioned under (a) or (b) or is complementary thereto, and

(d) a nucleic acid molecule whose nucleotide sequence deviates from the sequence of a nucleic acid molecule mentioned under (a), (b) or (c) owing to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

c1

2. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1, which is a DNA molecule.

3. (Amended) The DNA molecule as claimed in claim 2, which is a cDNA molecule.

4. (Twice Amended) The nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1, comprising regulatory elements.

5. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1, which is an RNA molecule.

6. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which specifically hybridizes under stringent conditions with a nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1.

c2

9. (Amended) The vector as claimed in claim 8, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is operably linked in sense orientation to regulatory elements which ensure transcription and synthesis of a translatable RNA in prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells.

10. (Amended) The vector as claimed in claim 8, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is operably linked in sense orientation with respect to regulatory elements, and wherein a cosuppression effect is achieved in prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells.

C2 ant

11. (Amended) The vector as claimed in claim 8, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is operably linked in antisense orientation with respect to regulatory elements which ensure the synthesis of an untranslatable RNA in prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells.

12. (Amended) A host cell which is transformed with a nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1, or with a vector as claimed in claim 8, or a cell which is derived from the host cell.

14. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a protein encoded by the nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1, wherein a host cell as claimed in claim 12 is cultured under conditions which permit said protein to be synthesized, and said protein is isolated from the cultured cells and/or the culture medium.

C3

15. (Amended) A process for generating a transgenic plant cell, wherein

(a) a nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 or

(b) a vector as claimed in claim 8 is integrated into the genome of a plant cell.

16. (Amended) A transgenic plant cell which has been transformed with a nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1, or with a vector as claimed in claim 8, or a cell which is derived from the plant cell.

Please add the following claim:

27. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein with the function of a wheat starch synthase, selected from the group consisting of

C4

(a) a nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

(b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides 9-570 of SEQ ID NO:1 or a ribonucleotide sequence corresponding therewith;

(c) a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under stringent conditions with one of the nucleic acid molecules mentioned under (a) or (b) or is complementary thereto, and

C4 Cont

(d) a nucleic acid molecule whose nucleotide sequence deviates from the sequence of a nucleic acid molecule mentioned under (a), (b) or (c) owing to the degeneracy of the genetic code.